

A most Delightful

# HISTORY

Of the famous

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*Clothier of England,*

CALLED,

ACK of NEWBERRY.

the days of King *Henry* the Eighth; how  
he was beloved of his Mistress above all  
her wealthier Sutors: what great and  
valiant things he did for *England*:  
and the great number of poor he  
daily cherished.

and how (when the King sent for him) he  
refused (with his company) to leave the  
Hill of Ants to go to the King: and  
therefore the King went to him:  
which he wittily excused:  
with many other very  
pleasant passages.

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Written by *W. S. F. C.*

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the Angel in Duck-Lane. 1684.

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# The most delightful History of JACK of Newberry.

**I**n the Reign of King Henry the Eighth, one John Wincomb, being an Apprentice to a rich Clothier in the town of Newberry in Barkshire, a pretty handsome Youth, his Father dyed, and left his Mistress a widow; who perceiving Jack to be a faithful, careful, and trusty Servant, she put him in great trust in the House; who as carefully performed the trust reposed in him.

His Mistress having many Suitors coming to her, could not fancy any: for her man John had stoln away her heart. The Parson of Spinhomeland woo'd her, and often solicited with her to make her his wife, but could not obtain her love, because he was a Clergyman; too much (she thought) devoted to his Study. A rich Tanner was a second wooer, but could not speed; for

A 2

though

though he was rich, yet was he too old for her young and lusty desires. A Tallow was a third man, who was almost confident of her love; but all in vain, for her man John, oh! he was the man that had so wounded her heart that she could love no other man.

She seeing the backwardness of John, her man (after many occasions which she gave him to woo her) came at last, and told him plainly that she loved him, which secret she did earnestly desire him not to impart to any: but he very modestly blushing with a Rouse colour in his cheeks, not knowing how to express himself as he desired, being astonished herewith; answered: Sweet Mistress (quoth he) I am but a Child to undertake so great a thing! it is a charge, the discharge whereof me thinks I fear to undertake: At which answer, she was something discouraged in her suite for the present; and kissing of him, brake off discourse for that time; and night approaching, she went to Bed; but took but little rest: but either slumbering, (at the best;) or dreaming of her pretty man John. She was so troubled, as if she had been wounded in a Prison, and with many cogitations of her Beloved, fetched many deep sighs in that doleful

for  
 es a  
 her  
 oh !  
 heart  
 of  
 and dark night : thinking it long e're  
 evening came : rejoycing to see the light ap-  
 ear : more to embrace her dear servant, or ra-  
 ther Walter, Joan.

She going to see Bartholomew Fair, as  
 women use to do, to see and be seen, took her  
 man Jo in with her : who whilst she was talk-  
 ing with a friend, espied him saluting a pretty  
 maid, which made her own mouth water : and  
 seeing her lips, she left discoursing with her  
 neighbor to go to John, to prevent his further  
 familiarity with the maid.

Afterwards she met with the Taylor her  
 sweet-heart, so neat as could be, in the  
 fair : who desiring her to drink a Cup of  
 wine with him, was denied again and again,  
 but by importunity she was perswaded : and  
 espying the Tanner, called him into the  
 Tabern to them, to help to bear Charges :  
 little imagining that he was a Sutor to the  
 same Widow : and both of them espying  
 the Parson go by, called him in, expecting  
 to make him their soliciter : thus were they  
 all meerly drawn into Cupid's Paradise :  
 but when each had discovered their intents  
 to other, they were all exceedingly perplexed,  
 not knowing how this Division might  
 be ended : At last, it was desired of the  
 Widow

Widow which of them she loved best : and she answered, that she loved them all ; and gave them thanks for their charges ; but (quoth the Parson) can you find in your heart to marry me ? It is your Office to marry, quoth she, and not mine. Then (quoth the Tanner) will you make me your Husband ? Truly Neighbour, quoth she, me thinks you might better be my Father, you are of great Years to marry such a young Widow as I am. Then (quoth the Taylor) widow, it is I that must enjoy you ; shall you and I be married ? Yes, I hope so (quoth the widow) when we and our sweet-hearts are agreed : So desiring to take her leave of them, giving them thanks for their costs they spent on her, she arose up to go away ; but they desiring a full answer from her, desired her to give them better satisfaction to their Requests. If (quoth she) you will come to my House on Thursday, I will give you full satisfaction : at which time they all came ; and she told them all then plainly, that she would marry none of them, for she had one nearer home, whom she loved so well, that she could not marry any other man ; so they went all away very sad and discontented.

Right approaching, she talked private-

with her man John, vowing him to marry  
 ; which he still through bashfulness  
 refused: And when night approached, she cau-  
 sed a special bed to be made for her man John  
 to lie in; which bed was onely for special  
 strangers to lie in, or for her husband when  
 he was not well: and she lay her self in the  
 next Chamber to him, which she locked up, &  
 kept the Key thereof her self.

But when she had lain in bed an hour or  
 two, she began to think it very long to lye  
 alone; so she arose out of her bed, and went to  
 her man John, shivering and shaking, and  
 pulling up his bed-cloths, he started; Who is  
 there, quoth he? It is I my sweet *John*, quoth  
 she, I am your Mistress; it is an extreme cold  
 to night, and I, lying alone, am almost starved in  
 my Bed: Good *John* afford me the favour of  
 the Nights lodging by thy side, my *John*, I  
 pray thee. Alas poor Mistress, quoth he, come  
 and lie close: Yea, yea, quoth she, ah! poor  
 sweet *John*; oh! sweet, sweet *John*: oh! sweet  
 and good *John*; but here I leave them till the  
 next morning.

She got up very early in the morning, and  
 calling for John her man to go abroad with  
 her, she took him to the Church of Saint Bar-

tholomeus; and calling for the Priest of that place, she, with him perswaded Iohn that they might then be married together; which with a small intreaty he was perswaded to; and so they returned home; and when they went to dinner, she made him to sit in her old husbands Chair by her self at the end of the Table; after which his old fellow-servants began to smile so, and before Dinner was ended, she took him about the neck and kissed him, and told her old Servants that he was her Husband, and commanded them to give him the respects due to a Master.

He also spake lovingly to them, and told them, that he would not forget that he was once their Fellow-Servant, but would deserve their respects to the uttermost of his endeavour. Thus they spent the day in loving toings, and only some oversight of the Wokkenza withal, and at night they went to Bed.

This new-married Bride was the next morning visited by divers Gossips of her acquaintance, that heard of the Wedding; who spent each of them their verdict, what the event of this her hasty match would be: which Gossips did exceedingly discourage her. Oh! but (quoth she) I will take an Elder



then that; for I will curb him at the first, that  
they will make sure that he shall never cross over  
either. I warrant you.

So she indeed she began to grow as great a  
t gossip as any was in Newberry, and would  
sometimes come home very late at night; in-  
deed much, that at last her husband John went  
to bed, and locked her out; and took the Key  
himself into his own chamber: and when the good  
wife saw that she was shut out of doors. She  
sighed very hard, till at last her husband  
came and asked her at the window and bad her to go look  
at lodging at night, where she had been sitting  
told all day: Sur. Gossips (quoth he) as you, the  
Cage is the fittest Lodging for, go to the Con-  
stable and bespeak a bed of him.

Oh! dear Husband, quoth she, be not so  
gry, I pray you give me leave to come into  
my Bed, good sweet Husband, I pray you,  
and let me not stand thus in the cold, lest I  
lose my life thereby: After many fine  
words wherewith she had intreated her hus-  
band to come down and open the door, he  
came down to her, and let her in: to whom  
she dissemblingly pretended to have lost her  
Wedding Ring from off her hand, who lo-  
vingly going to it with the Candle in his  
hand (in his shirt) looked up and down upon  
her.

the ground for it : and he the mean time stepping in, clapped to the dooꝛ, and shut him out ; whereat he was much perplexed, and knocked a long time in the cold before she would answer, who at last opening the window, bade him go look a Lodging with his Countesse's Wife ; and asked him whether he thought it good to lye in the cold in the street : Now (quod she) she who was even now at your mercy, hath gotten you at hers. Oh sweet Wite, quoth he, be not angry, but let me come in ; I swear unto thee, that I will never shut thee forth of doors again, but thou shalt do what thou wilt and I will never meddle nor make with you whatsoever you do hereafter : whereupon she came down and opened the dooꝛ, and let him in ; and there they made great protestations each to other, never to affront or fall out one with the other after ; and with a good Sack-potlet the Covenant was agreed between them.

Shortly after the King was to raise an Army of Souldiers against the Scots, who was risen against the English ; and Jack of Newberry raised at his own charges an hundred and fifty men ; and allowed white Coats red Caps, and yellow feathers ; and led

them himself: fifty of them were valiant  
 men; fifty Pikes, and fifty Musque-  
 ts; all brave Swords, good Arms, and va-  
 liant men; who marching by before the  
 Queen, Queen Katherine; she called for him,  
 understanding what he was, after she had  
 forth her hand for him to kiss, she promi-  
 sed to acquaint the King's Majesty with his  
 name and great service.

*A Song used by Jack of Newberry and  
 his Souldiers.*

King Jamie of Scots hath raised  
 an Army against England:  
 let him come, we'll thunder him back,  
 he cannot us withstand.

Jack of Newberry com's, proud Scots take heed  
 with valiant Souldiers stout;  
 Who for brave England will fight with you,  
 and never will give out.

Our milk-white Coats, red Caps,  
 and yellow Feathers declare,  
 Our Resolution's stout and good,  
 there Scots we will not spare.

*Shoutle*

Shortly after Jack of Newberry heard that the King was to ride by Newberry : so he with his Servants went out into the field, and finding an hill of Pismires, drew his sword and guarded it : And the King coming by, sent for him to know the reason why he guarded that place with his sword drawn, the King in person being to pass by there : who returned answer, That he was busy, and could not speak with him : and the King is on horse-back, and I am on foot, therefore (quoth he) he may the better come to me. Tell the King, that I stand here to guard the laborious Arts from their Enemies : which being brought to the King, he went to Jack of Newberry, expecting that it was done to make some jest for his pleasure : and when the King came, Jack, with all his men, fell on their knees, and cried, God save the King : your Sacred Majesty (quoth he) hath vanquished all mine Enemies. Now trust me, quoth the King, you are stout Soldiers to fight against Butterflies, and withstand such mighty Gyants.

The dread Sovereign, quoth Jack of Newberry, not long ago, in my conceit, I saw the most provident nation of the Arts, sum-

and their chief Pairs to a Parliament,  
 which was held in the famous City of Dier-  
 pte, the one and thirtieth day of September:  
 and whereas by their Wisdoms I was chosen  
 hissing: at what time also many Bills of  
 complaint were brought in against divers ill  
 members in the Common-wealth, among  
 whom the Wole was arraigned of High-treason  
 against their State, and therefore was banished for  
 and from their quiet Kingdom: so was the  
 Grasshopper and the Caterpillar: because they  
 were not only idle, but also lived upon the la-  
 bellies of other men: Amongst the rest the  
 Caterpillar was very much disliked, but few  
 durst say any thing to him, because of his go-  
 odly apparel: who, though suffering, grew  
 more ambitious and malapert, that the poor Ant  
 could no sooner get an Egg into her Nest, but  
 he would have it away, especially against Easter  
 when he at length was disliked.

This painted Ass took snuff in the nose, and  
 resembled a great many other of his own Coat,  
 and windy Wars to root these painful peo-  
 ple out of the Land, that he himself might  
 sit above them. These were proud But-  
 flies, quoth the King.

Whereupon I, with my men, quoth Jack,  
 prepared our selves to withstand them, till such  
 time

time as your Majesties Royal presence put  
them to flight.

*The Song which Jack sung with his men  
before the King.*

**I** Have taken upon me a charge  
to govern these poor Ants,  
That they may walk at large,  
to gather in their wants.

That they may walk mo safe,  
to bring home their relief:  
And keep that which they have  
from every idle Thief.

But now my King is here,  
I bow down low my knee,  
For we that vaunted here  
are Subjects unto thee.

God bless thee Royal King,  
and send thee long to Reign,  
And joy in every thing,  
and freedom from all pain.

I, and my men, and mine,  
my Ants, and all we have ;

Command

Command us, we are thine,  
and so the King God save.

Now to return again to Jack and his  
wife, it fell out that she fell sick and dyed;  
being buried. Jack fell in love with one  
his maids: and sending for her Father,  
know what he would give with his Daugh-  
ter: he came to Newberry, and seeing the  
wealth of his Daughters Sweet-heart, and  
after, he was astonished: for Jack had,

one Room two hundred Looms all going.  
two hundred Boys making Quills.  
two hundred Women Carding.  
two hundred Maids in another Room spin-  
ning.

two hundred and fifty Boys picking of Wool  
fifty Shiermen.  
eight Rowers.

fourty Dyers in the Dy-house.

twenty men in a Fulling-Mill.

one fat Oxen he spent every week in his  
house, besides Butter, Cheese, Fish, &c.

Butcher  
Baker  
Brewer } for his own house.

Five

Five Cooks.

Six Scullion-Boys.

Divers Turn-spits, &c.

Sir, (quoth the old man) I wis the zee you be hominable Rich, and cham content; you shall have my Daughter, and God's Blessing and mine light on you both. I vaith cham but a poor man, but I thong God cham of good exclamation among my Neighbours; and they will as zoon take my vice for any thing as a richer mans: thiek I will bestow you shall have with a very good will, because che hear very good commendation of you in every place; therefore thiek give you twenty Nobles, and a weanling Calf, and when I dye, and my Wife, you shall have the Revelation of my Goods.

But Jack made more reckoning of the woman's modestie, and virtues, than of his Fathers proffer; and he married her, and made a great Wedding: and instead of receiuing the old mans dowrie, he gave him twenty pounds in money; besides other good gifts.

Oh my good Zon! quoth the old man, Christs benizon be with thee evermore. For to tell thee true, we had zold all our  
Kine



me to make money for my Daughters marriage, and this zeven year we should not have been able to buy any more. Notwithstanding we should have zold all that ever we had, before my poer welch should have lost her marriage: I should have zold my coat from my back, and my bed from under me, before my Daughter should have gone without you. I thank you good Father and Mother (quoth the Bride) and I pray God long to keep you in health: then the Bride kneeling down, did her duty to her Parents; who weeping for very joy, departed.

Now there was one Randal Pert a Dyabler, dwelling in Watling-street, who owed to Jack of Newberry five hundred pounds. And it happened that Jack came up to London; and as he went to his Customers, he met in the street this Randal Pert in a frock, carrying a Porter's Basket, and an old ragged Doublet, and a torn pair of Breeches, with his Hose out at Heels, and a pair of old broken slip-shoes on his feet, a Rope about his middle, and a greasie Cap on his Head, and newly come out of Prison.

Now was his Wife, who before for daintiness would not touch her fingers, nor turn her head aside for fear of rumpling her necklace.

finger, yet now glad to go about and wash  
 2. ucks at the Thames side, and to be a chare-  
 woman; her soft hand was now hardened  
 with scouring, and instead of Gold Rings up-  
 on her Lilly white fingers, her hands and fin-  
 gers were now filled with chaps.

But when her husband espied Jack of New-  
 berry his Creditor, he ran away as fast as he  
 could, for fear of being arrested: but he sent  
 his man after him: who seeing one pursue  
 him, he ran the faster; and in running, here  
 he lost one of his Slip-shoes, and there ano-  
 ther, ever looking behind him with great fear:  
 At last his Breeches being tyed but with one  
 point, that with the haste he made, and the  
 slowness thereof, brake, and his Breeches fell  
 about his heels: and did so shackle him, that  
 he fell down all along in the street with his  
 Arse bare, and an old ragged shirt, he lay  
 sweating and blowing, being quite worn out  
 of breath: to whom the fellow came, and  
 brought him to his Master: who took him to  
 a Scrivener, to give him Bond for the pay-  
 ment of the money: and the time of the  
 payment of the money was to be paid when the  
 said Peri was Sheriff of London, a thing very  
 unlikely.

Well, the Scrivener made the Bond, w  
 by

was paid when Randal Pert was Sheriff of London, and thereunto set his hand for a witness, and twenty persons more that stood by.

And Jack of Newberry sent for a new suit of Apparel for him out of Birchen-Lane, and a new shirt, and band; hat, hose, shoes, and all things necessary, Merchant like; then he took for him a shop in Canwick-street, and furnished the same shop with a thousand pounds worth of Cloth, by which means, and other labours which he did for him, he grew in good credit again, and became very provident: and his wife turned to be the best housewife in the parish: and he soon got good custom, and was very provident: and increased in wealth that he in short time became one of the best men for wealth in the parish: and there was much notice taken of him, that he was chosen Sheriff of London, and sold the five hundred pounds every penny: and kept a black house in his Shrievalty: and afterwards being an Alderman of London, died before he came to be Lord Mayor: and left his wife a great estate.

Jack of Newberry, otherwise called Spafford John Winchcomb, being grown very old, he fell sick, and after few days he died, and

(19)

his Wife buried him in great Pomp : and  
he left his Wife a great Estate , and many  
Legacies to Friends, and to many poor people  
were left by him : and to his Burial came the  
greatest part of the Country all thereabouts,  
to see the good old man laid in his Grave, where  
we will leave him with this Epitaph.

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Epitaph

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## EPITAPH.

F Newberry here lies valiant Jack,  
 Shrouded in white, come to his end  
 death that now hath broken his back :  
 To his Country was a friend,  
 He aid to those that labour lov'd ;  
 He help to poor, both blind, and lame,  
 Men, Women, Children, all have prov'd  
 The succour sweet that from him came.  
 Winchcomb adieu ! God hath thy Soul,  
 Thy body lies inclosed in earth,  
 Thy works brave Histories do enroul,  
 Thy life, thy fame, ev'n from thy birth.

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FINIS.



**These Books following**  
are to be Sold by *William Thackeray*, in  
Duck-Lane, near West Smithfield.

**T**He famous History of the Gentle-Craft  
The Book of Knowledge, of things un-  
known : the old, and best sort.

The History of *Thomas of Reding*.

The History of the Golden Eagle.

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*There is also to be had these Books of Di-  
vinity.*

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Woe.

sinners fobs,

The Christians Guide.

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There is also two excellent Tables : One  
called, *Christus natus est*, of the Birth of  
Christ.

The other, A Watch for a wise Mans Ob-  
servation : very good, pretty, and delight-  
ful things.

F I N I S.